22. Mandakini CGHS
23. The Veg Sanchar CGHS
24. Media CGHS

Trade with Bangladesh

2249. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had a proposal to allow trade with Bangladesh through the Haldibari-Chilahati route by road;

(b) if so, the final decision taken in this regard; and

(c) by when this route is likely to be opened in the interest of export of Indian goods to Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (c) Government have a proposal to open a land route for trade with Bangladesh through Land Customs Station at Haldibari-Chilahati. This route would require a proper road connection between the two Land Customs Stations which will facilitate road traffic. It is not possible to fix a definite time-frame for opening the road route at this stage.

Dental Treatment

2250. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news entitled "Safdarjung Aspatal: Dant Rogon Ke upchar ke liye na Kursi hai na upkaran" appearing in "Dainik Jagaran" dated April 9, 1997;

(b) if so, whether there are no 'dental chair' and no equipments to treat the patients suffering from dental illness in Safdarjung Hospital;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the government to provide dental chairs and other equipments and to strengthen the dental department; and

(d) the time by which the equipments and dental chairs are likely to be provided to the dental department so that patients may not suffer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Dental Department of Safdarjung Hospital has 4 dental chairs out of which 3 are functional. The Deptt. is adequately equipped to treat patients suffering from common dental illness.

(c) and (d) Two more chairs and more equipments are in the process of being purchased to strengthen the Department.

[Translation]

Benefits of Privatisation to Labour

2251. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the man-power has been benefited because of privatisation of industries by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of corporation and industries privatised in Gujarat so far; and

(d) the norms followed to safeguard the interest of the labour class?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Privatisation of industries, if done selectively and sequentially in a favourable economic environment is expected to improve the productivity of labour and ensure greater employment of workers in the long run. However, there is no conclusive empirical evidence to quantity the benefits of privatisation of labour in the Indian context.

(c) The number of corporations and industries privatised so far in the State of Gujarat is not available with the Union Ministry of Labour.

(d) A number of labour laws have been enacted to ensure that the interest of labour is adequately protected. These includes the Industrial Disputes Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Minimum Wages Act etc.

[English]

Bajaj Electricals Limited

2252. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bajaj Electricals Limited, Mumbai have been violating Provident Fund rules concerning its employees;

(b) whether the RPFC, Mumbai has taken any initiative to protect the employees and worksmen;

(c) whether the company has not been releasing accumulated Provident Fund dues of its employees for years together; and